

a thermal print head for printing an image on an image receiving tape, said thermal print head having a first mode of operation and a second mode of operation;

receiving means for receiving in said first mode of operation a supply of image receiving tape and a supply of ink ribbon for providing an image on the image receiving tape, and in second mode of operation a supply of thermally sensitive image receiving tape;

driving means for driving the ink ribbon;

control means for controlling said thermal print head, and

detecting means for detecting a characteristic indicative of movement of the ink ribbon to determine if an ink ribbon is present or absent in said receiving means and for providing a signal to said control means indicative of the presence or absence of the ink ribbon, said control means acting to control said thermal print head to operate in said first mode of operation when the ink ribbon is present and in said second mode of operation when the ink ribbon is not present.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (Thrice amended) A tape printing apparatus for printing a label on an image receiving tape comprising:

a print zone;

a thermal print head located at said print zone for printing the label on the image receiving tape as the image receiving tape passes through said print zone, said thermal print head having a first mode of operation and a second mode of operation;

control means for controlling the thermal print head;

detecting means for detecting a characteristic indicative of the presence or absence of the ink ribbon and for providing a signal to the control means indicative of the presence or absence of the ink ribbon, wherein said control means controls the print head to have said first mode of operation when ink ribbon is present and said second mode of operation when no ink ribbon is present;

a support member to support the ink ribbon, wherein said support member having a first position when the ink ribbon is present and a second position when no ink ribbon is present, said detecting means being positioned to detect a characteristic indicative of the position of said support member to determine if the ink ribbon is present or absent.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

driving means for driving the ink ribbon, wherein said support member is a rotatable support member having gear means, said gear means having a first position in which said gear means is coupled to said driving means when the ink ribbon is present and a second position when the ink ribbon is not present, said detecting means being positioned to detect a

F3
Co characteristic indicative of whether said gear means is in said first position or said second position.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

F4
but
cancel 6. (Twice amended) A tape printing apparatus as claimed in any of claims 4 to 5, wherein said detecting means is positioned to detect the position of the support member.

Please cancel claims 7-9.

Please amend claim 25 as follows:

but
cancel
F5 25. (Thrice amended) A tape printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein in said first mode of operation, the image receiving tape and the ink ribbon are received in a first cassette, and in said second mode of operation, the image receiving tape is received in a second cassette.

Please amend claim 31 as follows:

F6 31. (Twice amended) A cassette for use in a printing apparatus comprising a housing in which a reel holding a supply tape is arranged, said reel being rotatable with respect to said housing and having a plurality of markings thereon, said housing being arranged so that said markings are detectable by a detecting arrangement external to said cassette to provide information relating to the rotation of said reel.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are marked "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".